

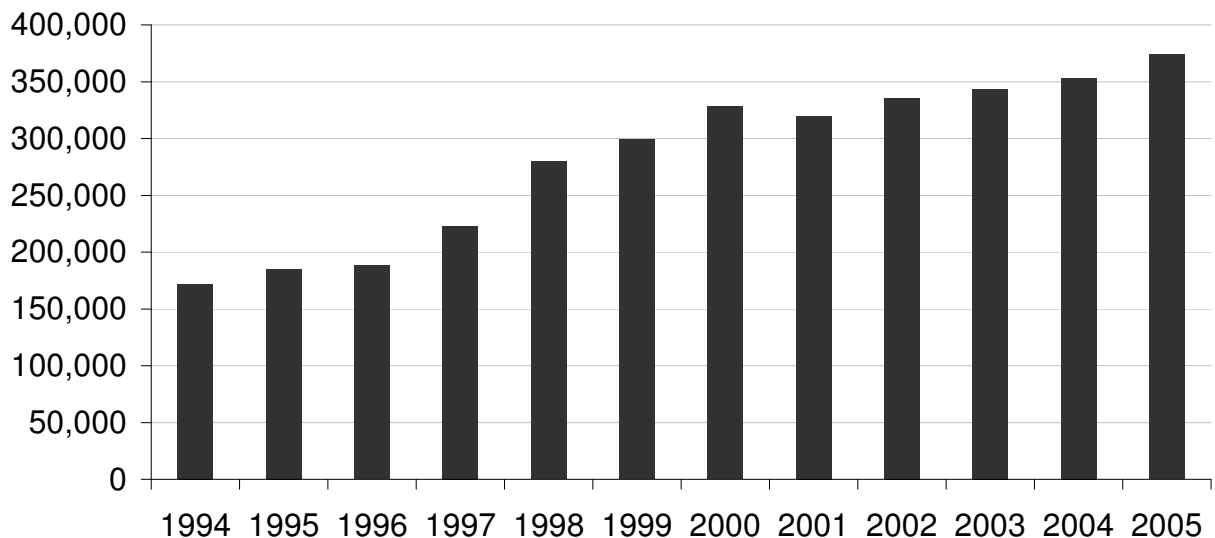


Amtrak *Cascades* Ridership Information

Amtrak *Cascades* Annual Ridership

1994 - 2005 Seattle-Portland Only

Number of Passengers



Ridership Climbs in 2005

In 2005 Amtrak *Cascades* marked its 11th consecutive year of ridership increases.

The Seattle-Portland round trips, sponsored by the state of Washington and Amtrak, carried 374,008 riders in 2005. This is a 5.9 percent increase over 2004.

WSDOT and Amtrak anticipate that Amtrak *Cascades* ridership will continue to grow in 2006. This increase is expected with the introduction of a new daily round trip between Seattle and Portland beginning July 1, 2006.

How is Ridership Calculated?

Ridership measures the number of people who are riding on Amtrak *Cascades*, which travels from Vancouver, B.C., to Eugene, Oregon. This measurement is calculated by counting the number of tickets sold for each train, each day. This number is then converted into monthly and annual totals for each train and for the entire Amtrak *Cascades* service.

What is it Used For?

Ridership tells Amtrak, WSDOT, policymakers, and the public how popular Amtrak *Cascades* is with the traveling public, whether for an individual train or the system as a whole. It helps Amtrak and WSDOT plan for future service, manage revenues, develop marketing strategies, and set performance goals.

Why Is Amtrak *Cascades* Ridership on the Rise?

We credit the steady increase in Amtrak *Cascades* ridership to a combination of factors including:

- increased train frequency
- reduced train travel times
- increased highway congestion
- increased gasoline prices
- customer service improvements
- smart, local marketing and promotion
- custom-built Euro-style trains
- station improvements